



Development of Cross Institution Infection Control Hygiene Audit Capability

Singapore Healthcare Management



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1. Background

SingHealth cluster consists of 4 Hospitals, 5 Specialist Institutions, 1 primary care group and 1 community hospital with approximate combined staff strength of 28,000. Previously each institution conducted their own localized form of Hand Hygiene audit. There was no central body to coordinate efforts and enable the sharing of data, assets & facilities and knowledge. As part of the Target Zero harm initiative, a cluster-wide entity was formed.

2. Aim

This poster documents the methods and development of standardised cluster wide hand and environmental hygiene audits and the establishment of the Cross Institution Infection Control (CIIC) team.

3. Methodology

A cluster-wide entity was formed to coordinate and provide independent hygiene audit capability for SingHealth, for the purpose of heightening awareness of and compliance to Infection Control (IC) measures and best practice standards. There us also a focus on sharing and learning to enhance overall infection control and prevention practices to assure patient and staff safety. The two key areas covered during each CIIC audit at individual audited Institutions are hand hygiene (HH) performance and state of environmental hygiene (EH) in all clinical areas.

Members of the CIIC Group are drawn from serving Nursing, Infection Control, Allied Health and Operations (Environmental Services) staff of all SingHealth Institutions.

4. Result

4.1. An audit team (approximate staff strength of 108) comprising of staff from various Institutions was trained in cross institution hand hygiene (CIHH) and environmental hygiene audit (CIEH). (See Fig 1)



Fig.1 CIIC Auditor Appreciation Lunch 2018

4.2. CIIC provided accurate, regular, benchmarked CIHH & CIEH data of each Institution. Data collected from audit is shared with Management on a quarterly basis and form part of the Institution's Balanced Score Card . (See Fig 2)

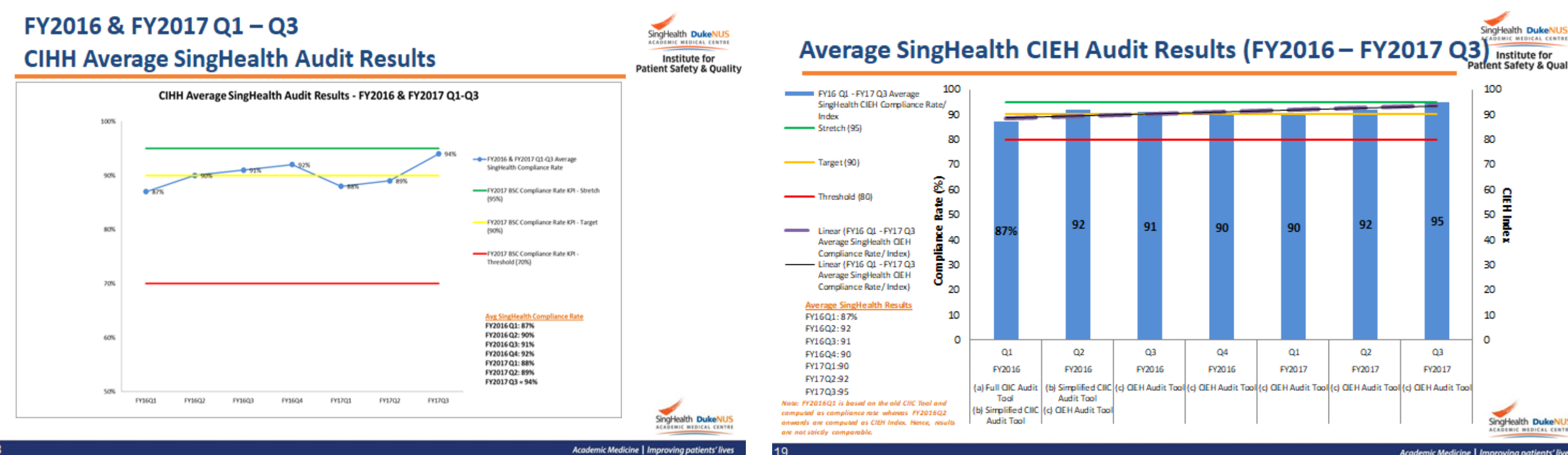


Fig.2 CIIC Quarterly Reports to Institution and SingHealth Management

4.3. The audit was instrumental in ensuring high performance standards of hand hygiene and environmental hygiene in SingHealth.

4.4 There was increased focus on sharing and learning of best infection control practices during the audit exchanges.

4.5 The CIIC team also provide Train the Trainer classes as per request to Institution or Management to build local capability. (See Fig 3)



Fig.3 HH Train the Trainer Practicum 2018

4.6. The time taken for post audit data entry work was reduce by around 50% (691 hrs to 360 hrs) with the incorporation of macros into the audit form.

4.7. The audit process was standardised to ensure consistency of audit operations across all sites. (See Fig 4)

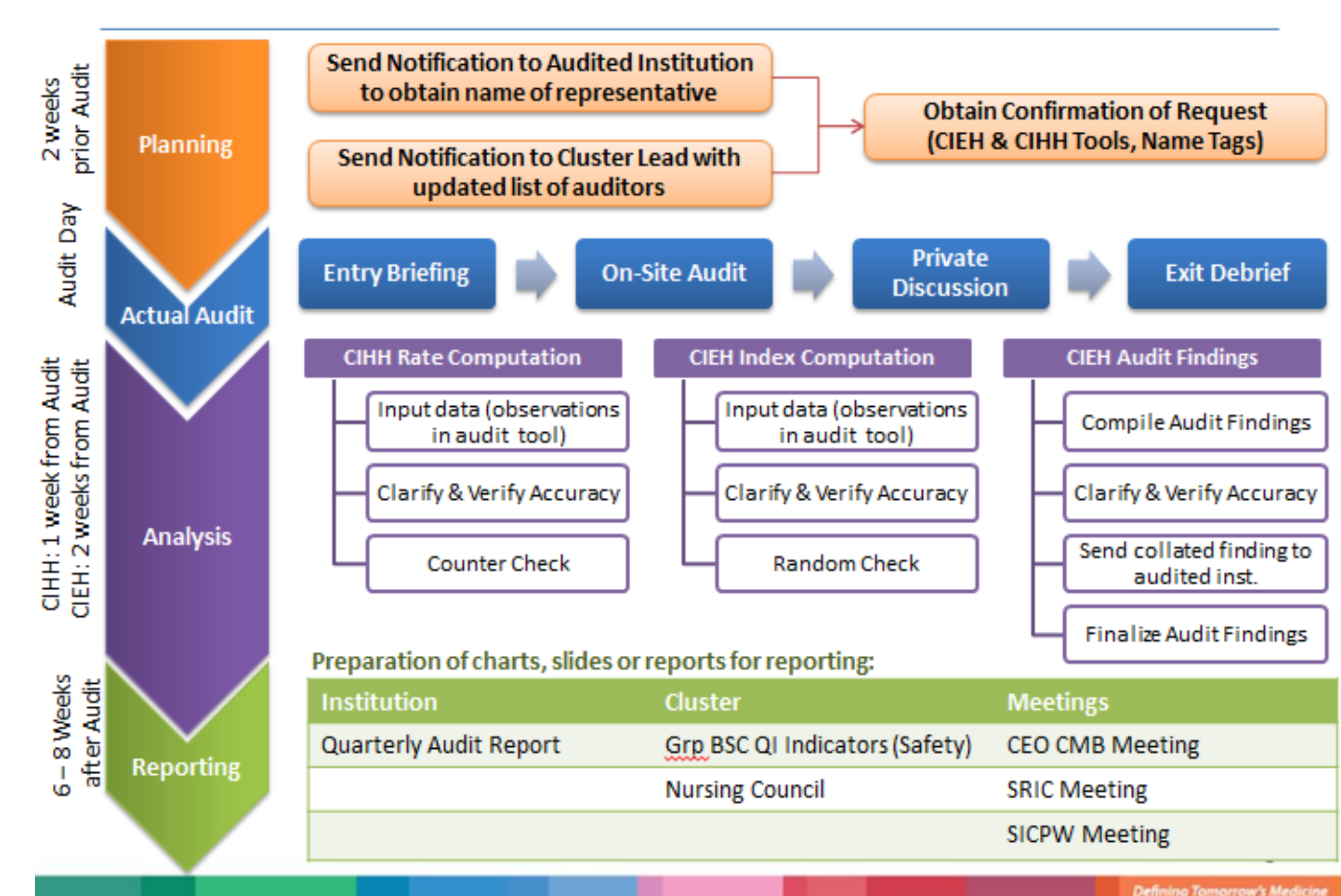


Fig.4 Overview of CIIC Audit Process [source: ORS]

5. Conclusion

The establishment of CIIC team provides SingHealth with the ability to coordinate and support cluster-wide Hand Hygiene and Environment Hygiene audit services. It facilitates sharing of best practices and ensures a high standard of infection control in SingHealth.